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ABSTRACT

This guide is designed to offer teachers and school administrators a rationale for the Project Approach, a description of the practical implications of its implementation, and ways of integrating parts of the approach with other ways of teaching. The guide is divided into two sections. Section 1, "Reviewing Today's Classroom Practices," examines issues as they relate to children and learning. Chapter 1, "The Learner," gives an account of children's learning that can form a useful basis for planning and evaluating progress. Chapter 2, "The Instruction," presents effective teaching and classroom management techniques, and Chapter 3, "The Learning Environment," examines the teacher's role in managing an environment where a variety of different activities are in progress. Chapter 4, "The Content," offers a detailed comparison between topics and themes, units and projects, and a step-by-step approach to creating a project topic with children. Section 2 details "Understanding the Project Approach." Chapter 5, "Phases of Project Work," provides a walk-through of the three phases (getting started, fieldwork, culminating event), with an outline of what each phase has to offer and how they differ from one another. Chapter 6, "Children's Work: Processes and Products," gives a detailed description of children at work on projects. Chapter 7, "Evaluation and Assessment," makes a distinction between the kinds of learning that can be assessed in the different parts of the programs, and chapter 8, "The Roles of Teachers, Students, and Parents," looks at how parents can be better informed about their children's learning and more involved in their progress both in school and at home. (EV)

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